

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION EUR-08

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S E C R E T NATO 07900

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652:GDS
TAGS: PFOR, NATO, MNU5, NPG
SUBJECT: CONSULTATIONS IN NATO ON ENHANCED RADIATION
WEAPONS

1. UK PERMREP KILLICK CALLED CHARGE TODAY RE REPORTED
WHITE HOUSE SPOKESMAN'S COMMENT THAT US WOULD CONSULT
WITH ALLIES BEFORE PRESIDENT TAKES DECISION ON ENHANCED
RADIATION WARHEAD. KILLICK, SPEAKING PERSONALLY, SAID
HE DOUBTED THAT SOME ALLIES SUCH AS FRG AND HMG WOULD
WELCOME FORMAL CONSULTATION ON PRODUCTION DECISION.
DECISION ON DEPLOYMENT CLEARLY REQUIRED FULL ALLIED
CONSULTATION. KILLICK SAID HE BELIEVED NPG PERMREPS
WOULD BE APPROPRIATE FORUM FOR ANY CONSULTATIONS ON
ENHANCED RADIATION WARHEAD. HOWEVER, HE DOUBTED THAT
EFFECTIVE CONSULTATION COULD BE HELD IN NPG PERMREPS
BETWEEN NOW AND MID-SEPTEMBER GIVEN VACATION SCHEDULES
AND SHORT TIME FOR PREPARATIONS.

2. DUTCH CHARGE BUWALDA ALSO CALLED TO SAY THAT HE HAD
BEEN ASKED BY THE HAGUE TO INQUIRE RE STATUS OF
REPORTED PROPOSED CONSULTATIONS. NOTING THAT NETHER-
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LANDS PARLIAMENT WAS ABOUT TO DISCUSS DEFENSE ISSUES
WHICH COULD INCLUDE ENHANCED RADIATION WARHEADS, HE
SAID THE HAGUE WOULD LIKE TO KNOW WHETHER THE US
PROPOSED TO DISCUSS THE ISSUE BILATERALLY OR IN NATO,
WHEN THE CONSULTATIONS WOULD TAKE PLACE AND WHETHER THE
US DECISION WOULD DEAL WITH AUTHORITY TO PROCEED WITH
PRE-PRODUCTION TEST MODELS OR AUTHORITY TO PRODUCE

ENHANCED RADIATION WARHEADS FOR DEPLOYMENT. WE SAID WE WERE ASKING FOR FULL TEXT OF REPORTED STATEMENT AND WOULD SEEK GUIDANCE.

3. ACTING SYG PANSA HAS ALSO RAISED CONSULTATION ISSUE. PANSA, LIKE KILLICK, ALSO DREW DISTINCTION BETWEEN CONSULTING WITH ALLIES ON PRODUCTION DECISION, WHICH HE BELIEVED US SHOULD ITSELF MAKE ALTHOUGH ALLIES SHOULD BE INFORMED IN ADVANCE, AND DEPLOYMENT IN EUROPE WHERE FULL ALLIED CONSULTATION WAS CALLED FOR.

4. COMMENT: AS PREVIOUSLY NOTED, WE BELIEVE THAT PRIOR TO PRODUCTION DECISION (A). CONSULTATIONS ON THAT DECISION SHOULD BE HANDLED BILATERALLY AND CONFIDENTIALLY WITH FRG AND POSSIBLY UK AND ITALY, (B). ADEQUATE INFORMATION SHOULD BE SUPPLIED TO ALL OTHER ALLIES, AND (C). NPG PERMREPS SHOULD BE OFFICIALLY INFORMED.

5. WE HAVE NOT SEEN FULL TEXT OF WHITE HOUSE SPOKESMAN'S COMMENTS BUT RECOMMEND THAT IF THERE IS ROOM TO DO SO, ALLIED INQUIRERS BE TOLD US OFFER TO CONSULT CONSISTS OF (A) ADEQUATE INFORMATION PRIOR TO PRODUCTION DECISION AND (B) FULL CONSULTATION PRIOR TO A DEPLOYMENT DECISION. IN THIS CONNECTION, WE WILL NEED BEAR IN MIND LIKELIHOOD THAT QUESTIONERS MAY ASK IF A DECISION TO PRODUCE WOULD BE LOGICAL WITHOUT AGREEMENT AND DECISION ON DEPLOYMENT. PERHAPS THIS COULD BE HANDLED BY (A)

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ENCOURAGING (BUT NOT PRESSING) FRG TO AGREE IN PRINCIPLE TO DEPLOYMENT DURING CONSULTATION ON PRODUCTION, AND/OR (B) EMPHASIZING THERE WILL BE SUFFICIENT TIME BETWEEN A DECISION TO PRODUCE AND A DECISION TO DEPLOY FOR FURTHER CONSULTATION IN CONTEXT OF NPG REVIEW OF TNF IMPROVEMENTS.

6. REQUEST GUIDANCE. GLITMAN

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